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County of Haliburton buys Wee Care

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter

The County of Haliburton is purchasing Wee Care, the daycare facility along County Road 21 just outside Haliburton Village, meaning when the deal closes, the upper-tier government will own both licensed childcare centres within the county.

County councillors approved the purchase during a Nov. 27 council meeting. As chief administrative officer Mike Rutter explained, the owners of the property, members of the Hodgson family who for many years had been involved in the operation of the facility, intended to sell the property to contribute to their retirement, but did not want to leave the daycare in a precarious position. After an unsuccessful search for an alternative location for the facility, the owners took the property off the market.

The county then entered negotiations for the purchase of the 3.5-acre property and its building appraised at \$800,000. Rutter said a building inspection indicated the roof of the facility would need to be replaced in the near future, and a

see DAYCARES page 2



We Need A Little Christmas

The Highlands Festival singers, directed by Melissa Stephens, performed a variety of festive songs to a packed house at their We Need a Little Christmas! concert at the Haliburton United Church on Sunday, Dec. 1. A second performance was scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. /CHAD INGRAM Staff

Family donates land for future rec centre

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter

The following are brief reports of items discussed during a Nov. 26 Dysart et al council meeting.

The Blair family is donating a large parcel of land along County Road 21 to the Municipality of Dysart et al for the purpose of a future recreation centre.

"This is to advise the council of the

Municipality of Dysart et al of my intention to donate the block of land at the corner of Soyers Lake Road and County Road 21 ... for the purpose of developing a recreation centre for the community of Haliburton County," reads correspondence from Marnie Blair.

The property, located across County Road 21 from the Pinestone, measures 15.75 acres in size.

"I am making this gesture in honour of my parents, Lee and Marie Blair, and, as such, am requesting that when such

see PROPERTY page 3

Davis, longtime local politician, dies

As the *Echo* goes to press, we've received news that Bill Davis, former county warden and longtime member of Dysart council, died on Nov. 30 in his 78th year. Davis was most recently deputy reeve of Dysart et al, retiring from politics in 2014.

Davis was involved in many pursuits in the Highlands during his lifetime and was a paramedic for Dysart et al as well as a dispatcher for the Ministry of Health.

A story on Davis's life will be featured in a future edition of the *Echo*.



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Daycares stay under public ownership

from page 1

purchase price of \$770,000 was negotiated. An offer was submitted and accepted in late October, with the deal set to close in early December.

"This ensures that both [licensed] daycares within the county stay under public ownership," Rutter said.

During the summer, county council voted to purchase the licensed daycare centre in Minden from the Ontario Early Years Centre for \$2. Since a kerfuffle in the spring of 2018 that nearly resulted in that facility's closure, it has been operated by Compass Early Learning and Care.

Bringing Wee Care under county ownership will avoid any similar precariousness around its future, and the county, as new landlord, is also entering into a 10-year lease agreement with Wee Care for its continued operation of the centre. The county will pay cash for the property out of its reserves, repaying itself with the \$36,000 in annual rent it will receive from the daycare operator during the next 21 years.

"It is recommended that an interest rate be paid similar to what could have been earned should the funds remain invested," a report from Rutter read. "It is expected that the annual taxpayer funded investment will be no more than \$15,000."

"The property has a fair amount of vacant land," Rutter told councillors, suggesting the county could use that property for some other purpose in the future, including affordable housing or community gardens. "There are lots of opportunities."

Councillors quickly and unanimously supported the purchase.

"This is a really good day for young families in Haliburton County," said Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts. "Just as much as we need doctors in our community ... we need daycare."



Nutcracker tickets on sale now

Rehearsals for *The Nutcracker* were underway at the Heritage Ballet studio on Dec. 1. Heritage Ballet's 16th production of *The Nutcracker* will run at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion this weekend, with shows at 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 6, and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7. Tickets are available online. Visit the Nutcracker Production - Heritage Ballet Facebook page for a link to buy tickets. /CHAD INGRAM Staff

Secondary school teachers' union plans one-day strike

JENN WATT

Editor

Action by teachers in Ontario is intensifying this week with the secondary school union announcing they will strike for one day on Wednesday, Dec. 4 if no deal with the province is reached.

Harvey Bischof, president of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation, said in a letter to members that meaningful progress had not been made at the bargaining table, pointing out that the process had been

ongoing for eight months.

"The Minister [of Education] has also undermined negotiations through press conferences at which he has publicly announced bargaining positions that have not been presented by his negotiating teams at the table. He publicly claims that compensation is the only issue preventing a deal, yet his bargaining team has simply refused to address our proposals on crucial issues including class size, e-learning and job security for our members," Bischof said.

OSSTF members had previously stopped providing some administrative services and held information pickets to get the word out.

"This one-day, full withdrawal of services will cause a short-term disruption for our students, but if we allow this government to continue down the path it is on, students will suffer the negative impacts for years to come,"

Bischof said.

Responding to the OSSTF announcement of an upcoming one-day strike, Minister of Education Stephen Lecce said the action was troubling and would hurt students.

"Our government has demonstrated consistently it is reasonable and student-centric by making major moves that have not been matched or reciprocated by the teachers' unions. In fact, on the days we made reasonable offers – reducing class room sizes from 28 to 25 and reducing online learning courses from four to two – the unions decided to escalate. This is wrong, and our students deserve better," he said.

"I call on OSSTF to remain at the bargaining table, with third-party, independent mediation, up until the deadline. All parties that are truly committed to the success of our children will consider every tool available to avoid strikes which hurt our students."

Trillium Lakelands District School Board said if the strike takes place, all secondary schools and adult and alternate education centres will be closed to students. They will reopen Thursday, Dec. 5.

The board said in an email to parents that they will be notified on Tuesday if the strike is set to proceed on Wednesday.

Elementary school teachers are currently taking work-to-rule job action, cutting out many tasks they previously conducted such as commuting on report cards and attending unpaid staff meetings outside of the regular school day.

They met with the provincial government's bargaining team on Monday with no updates before press time, however, in a statement released on Friday, the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario expressed frustration about how the process had been going.

"ETFO wants to reach a fair deal, and our bargaining team has been working hard to achieve that goal," said ETFO's president Sam Hammond. "We come ready every time to have meaningful discussions on issues that are important to our members. But we are not seeing the same commitment on the government's part."

Class size, violence in schools and supports for students are issues ETFO says it has been working on improving through negotiations, but says there has been "almost no progress" on those issues after four months of bargaining.

Updates from TLDSB on the OSSTF and ETFO job actions can be found at www.tldsb.ca/labour-updates.

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If we allow this government to continue down the path it is on, students will suffer the negative impacts for years to come.

— Harvey Bischof

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Haliburton County Home Builders Association

Draft county tax increase hovering below four per cent

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter

The following are brief reports of items discussed during a Nov. 27 meeting of Haliburton County council.

Treasurer Elaine Taylor presented an updated 2020 draft budget to councillors, which included a number of changes from a first draft budget she'd presented to council earlier this fall. The changes, a series of increases and decreases on various line items, resulted in a net drop of nearly \$14,000 from the first draft budget, meaning the anticipated tax rate increase has dropped from 3.93 to 3.89 per cent. One per cent has been allotted for assessment growth. It is likely the budget will be passed early in the new year. That tax rate increase is for the county portion of residents' tax bills, which also include a portion for their lower-tier tax rate, as well as the school board. It's anticipated most of the lower-tier councils will pass their 2020 budgets in February.

Danielsen reappointed warden

Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor Liz Danielsen, who has served as Haliburton County warden for 2019, was reappointed by colleagues to serve another year at the helm of the county council table. Councillors select from amongst

themselves who will serve as warden, the head of council and the county's primary representative with other levels of government, on an annual basis. The position is traditionally acclaimed, with Danielsen the only official nomination this time around. A member of county council since 2010, this year was Danielsen's first time in the role. She thanked her colleagues for their support, and will officially be inaugurated as warden for 2020 during a Dec. 17 meeting. A deputy warden will be chosen at a Dec. 18 meeting, or, if an internal election is required, in January. Haliburton County council is comprised of the mayors and deputy mayors from each of the county's four lower-tier municipalities.

Permission for puzzle

Residents Brigitte Gall and Michael Bainbridge made a delegation to council, requesting to use the image of a mural painted on the wall of the Minden registry office, a county-owned building on Newcastle Street, for a jigsaw puzzle.

The mural, which depicts a map of Haliburton County augmented by images of fish and other wildlife, advertising the area as a "fisherman's paradise," was painted in 1962 by artist Fred Ayers, who was contracted by the county for the work.

"So it is an image owned by the county," Gall said.

Last year, the couple launched puzzle company TheOccurence, using Bain-



Haliburton County councillors have granted Michael Bainbridge and Brigitte Gall of jigsaw company TheOccurence permission to use this county-owned image, a 1962 mural located inside the Minden registry office, for one of their puzzles. Part of the puzzle's sale will be donated to the artists in the schools program on behalf of the county. / CHAD INGRAM Staff

bridge's mineral photos as imagery for their first puzzles. Then, they made one featuring a number of road signs from around the county, called Haliburton County Road Trip.

"We totally underestimated how well that would be received," Gall said, explaining not only have they been making more of that puzzle, but were looking at doing a county-based series and thought the vintage mural would make an ideal image.

Since the image is owned by the county, for each sale of the mural puzzle, they explained a portion of the proceeds would be donated to the Art Council Haliburton Highlands' artists in the schools program, on behalf of the County of Haliburton.

Councillors were on board, granting the permission.

"Resoundingly, yes," said Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin.

Property donated in honour of Blairs

from page 1

time comes that a facility is developed, a commemorative plaque be placed in a prominent place honouring my parents," Blair's correspondence reads, and additionally requests the municipality take care of the surveying, legal and other costs associated with the transaction. "This community meant a lot to both of my parents and, as such, I am delighted to make this contribution to the health and well-being of all."

"To me, this is just the first step," said Mayor Andrea Roberts. "We've often talked about, where do we expand, what do we do, or could there be a pool, or should there be a full community centre."

The A.J LaRue Arena, used largely for minor hockey and for its rentable space upstairs, is not accessible.

"So, no promises, but at least with this gift, we are able to have land," Roberts said. "And that land is on sewers, and that land is only a few kilometres outside of our village and central to the county."

Hydro Outage

Following a planned eight-hour power outage by Hydro One that affected many parts of the county on Sunday, Nov. 24, Mayor Andrea Roberts said she'd been in contact with the utility and requested that any lengthy, planned outages in the future take place before the end of October.

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Company looks to restart, expand bioheat project

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter

Jamie Stephen of TorchLight Bioresources was back in Dysart et al council chambers on Nov. 26, looking to restart, and expand, a bioheat district energy system for Haliburton Village, a project that was derailed after the Ford government pulled funding during the summer of 2018, following its election that spring.

It was announced in April of 2018 that Dysart et al had been successful in obtaining a \$2.8-million grant from the province's Municipal Greenhouse Gas Challenge Fund, the monies for which came from Ontario's cap-and-trade system. That money was to act as the municipality's equity in the project, which would have been a public/private partnership, half the revenues flowing to Dysart et al and half to a private consortium.

The system was to include a central energy centre, where wood chips would be burned in specialized equipment, heating water in a boiler, that water then distributed throughout a series of underground pipes providing heat and water heating to buildings in the downtown area of Haliburton Village. According to Stephen, it was anticipated that business owners could have saved up to 30 per cent on their heating bills, and the project would have created a number of jobs, including at Haliburton Forest, which was to be the wood chip supplier.

Money had already started flowing to the municipality, a utility corporation to run the Haliburton system had been incorporated, and a seven-member board



Jamie Stephen of TorchLight Bioresources, flanked by Malcolm Cockwell of Haliburton Forest, at back, and Mike Rutter of Biothermic Wood Energy Systems, in the foreground, speaks to Dysart council on Nov. 26 about a bioheat district energy system for Haliburton Village. /CHAD INGRAM Staff

of directors (three reps from the municipality, three from the private partners and one neutral chairperson) had already been established and had held a number of meetings. A civil engineer had been hired.

When the Ford government announced

in July of 2018 that the funding was being revoked, the project was halted, since the \$2.8 million grant was to be the municipality's equity in the project.

During last week's meeting, Stephen told councillors he'd like to reboot, and grow, the proposed project. While the intent of the initial project had been to serve mostly commercial buildings in the core of Haliburton Village, what Stephen is now proposing would be larger in scope and involve three clusters. One would be most of Haliburton Village, this time including residences whose owners may want on the system, another would be the Fleming College campus, and the third would include the Haliburton Highlands Health Services site, as well as the three schools – SBES, JDH and HHSS – located close by. Stephen's recommendation is that this cluster constitute the project's first phase, since it would contractually and technically be the easiest system to initiate, and could act as a showpiece to the rest of the community as to the effectiveness of the technology. TorchLight would look to the municipality for the installation of the piping. The total capital cost for the entire project is estimated at between \$15 and \$20 million.

"A grant needs to be secured to restart this project," Stephen told councillors, indicating that if council approved, it was his intention to make an application under the Investing in Canadian Infrastructure Program, a dedicated green stream of which will provide \$2.25 billion worth of funding for projects aimed at environmental sustainability and climate change mitigation. Stephen told council a successful grant application would mean the ICIP would cover up to 73 per cent of

the project cost.

The funding program uses a combination of federal, provincial and municipal funding, with the feds typically contributing the largest portion of funding, followed by the provincial government, followed by the municipality. For example, for the \$1.25 million replacement of the Hawk Lake bridge, the federal government will provide \$625,000, the province \$412,500 and the County of Haliburton \$212,500.

Deputy Mayor Pat Kennedy was curious about what the municipality's financial commitments would be if a grant application was successful, and where the proposed project would fit into a wide-ranging list of priorities for the municipality.

"My question is, to council, where does this fit in our priorities?" Kennedy said. "Is this a No. 1, 2, 3, or nice to have?"

Stephen said the municipality's portion of capital costs would be covered by the grant.

"Your share is the grant," he said. "... The 26 per cent would come from the private sector."

"We need another meeting on this," Kennedy said.

Stephen also said he realized the process would include consultation with the public.

"We're fully aware there is a lot of community consultation required for this kind of approach," he said.

While councillors seemed generally positive about at least proceeding with a grant application, no resolution was passed at the meeting, and the issue will return to the council table.

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Gooderham firefighters ask for public's help

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

Gooderham's Station 3 volunteer firefighters are using the online fundraising website GoFundMe to help purchase a rescue vehicle valued at \$25,000.

The side-by-side vehicle and its rescue-specific accessories such as a rescue stokes basket, winch and emergency lighting, will enable the Gooderham station to replace its aging ATV.

Firefighter Angie Grant said the GoFundMe page allows people to donate, no matter where they live.

"We often have individuals approach us asking how they can donate to our fire hall, and this way we can direct them to a central location ... making it easy and accessible. We also wanted to approach others outside of our small community, who may find our story worth donating to," Grant wrote in an email.

"Response so far has been great, and we sincerely thank everyone who's donated already. We have only had the page live for a few days, and have already received over \$600 in donations," she wrote.

The campaign was started on Nov. 18. As of Monday, Dec. 2, \$2,175 was raised towards the \$25,000 goal.

The GoFundMe page reads: "Each year, Station 3 receives numerous emergency calls for assistance to the public in remote rescue situations. A large part of our area can only be accessed by an off-road vehicle. Our current rescue vehicle is an old ATV (four-wheeler) that is not adequate for the terrain we have to endure."

Since August, Grant has been a firefighter at the station, which serves a population that ranges from 700 to 2,000 people, seasonally.

"I'm honoured to be working alongside some of the most talented and knowledgeable firefighters – some whom have been part of this hall for over 10 years," she wrote in an email.

She said they are hoping to purchase the side-by-side as soon as possible, but it depends on how quickly they can raise the funds.

Last week, she shared an anecdote in an email that illustrated the need for a side-by-side to service the small community.

"Our most recent call that required an off-road vehicle was for a person who had been reported trapped/pinned under their ATV for a couple hours in the bush; this call came in around midnight. Upon our team attempting to rescue this individual, our ATV and ATV rescue trailer continued to get stuck in the mud and rough terrain that we were facing. If we had a side-by-side with tracks, we would be able to make into certain areas quickly and efficiently – especially because we wouldn't need to drag the rescue trailer through the bush."

In addition to the GoFundMe effort, the station is also planning several events for the coming spring, summer and autumn. This will include regular barbecues, garage sales and a community dance.

"We are also considering new approaches such as an open house day or family fun day – where we would invite the public to visit our hall and tour the fire trucks, potentially host a demo of some of our training, provide fire extinguisher training, or child car seat checks. Essentially, events that will be great for folks of all ages as well as families. We plan to work on our event planning over the winter season," she wrote.

To donate go to www.gofundme.com/f/gooderham-st-3-firefighters-new-rescue-vehicle.



Cookie funds make food bank volunteers smile

Tim Hortons Haliburton franchisee Nancy Bishop and operations manager Debbie Rouble present a cheque for \$2,698 to the Haliburton 4Cs food bank board members Debbie Bain and Ron Mark on Friday, Nov. 29 at the 4Cs food collection location in Haliburton. Bishop said the donation was made through Tim Hortons Smile Cookie program, which donates money from the sale of Smile Cookies each year in September. Recipients of the proceeds are invited to help promote and decorate the cookies during the week long campaign. /DARREN LUM Staff

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Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

Behind the numbers

IT'S HOW NUMBERS are presented that make them useful, or misleading, to an audience. Is the glass 50 per cent full, or 50 per cent empty? Or, in Haliburton County, are we losing agricultural operations or are we gaining small scale market gardens?

Faye Adamson and Kate Hall have recently re-examined the numbers compiled by Statistics Canada about Haliburton County's small agricultural industry, using input from producers about what they're seeing on the ground and have cultivated a different and more optimistic perspective than what the official data shows.

By digging deeper into the stats – specifically what operations and producers are included and what aren't – the report "Food and Agriculture in Haliburton County: Looking Beyond the Census" is also able to pinpoint barriers that can be addressed to encourage growth.

For example, the census shows that the number of farms declined from 67 in 2011 to 59 in 2016. However, the report points out that there was an increase in farms with less than 10 acres of land in that same period, from four to seven. The authors also point out that not everyone producing food on a small scale, such as market gardeners and homesteaders, is being counted by the census.

Stakeholders consulted said that barriers to small operations include regulations on minimum lot size, challenges in finding occasional staff, and increasing the public's awareness of available produce and how to get it.

Egg production continues to be unprofitable, the report says, mostly because of hen restrictions for farmers

who don't buy quota and the seasonal fluctuations that either mean farmers have too much supply or too much demand, depending on the time of year.

"Regulations limiting small-flock farmers to farm gate sales, with the lack of a local egg-grading station make it very hard to make a living selling eggs," the authors note.

But there is room to grow. Maple syrup production was highlighted as a strong industry that is perfectly suited to the landscape of the Highlands. Twenty-four maple operations were counted in the 2016 census with 17,656 trees tapped.

"The availability of idle bush at comparatively cheap rates, along with a growing market for the product, mean there are substantial opportunities for maple operations in Haliburton County," the report says.

Similarly garlic is singled out as a crop that is easy to grow and lucrative. The Census of Agriculture did not capture

data on this product. After bringing the official stats together with on-the-ground information from local experts, the authors were able to make recommendations, including the establishment of industry groups that could further develop specific subgroups of farmers, and the creation of a directory and map of agriculture and farm gate sales to make sure everything grown is sold.

Findings of the report are too plentiful to list in this space, but can be found on harvesthaliburton.com. The biggest lesson to be learned from Hall and Adamson's work is that numbers don't paint the full picture. It is the context and the examination of data, through the lens of the local community's needs, that gives it meaning.



jenn watt

Editorial



Nearly frozen

by Darren Lum

Slower and better

WELL I WON'T be able to do this much longer. So were Lois's thoughts as she wheeled her bicycle out of the shed. After a week of frigid temperatures and snow – yes snow the day after Halloween – she was pleasantly surprised to find the weather cooperating with her mode of transportation.

Getting around on a bike when you live in a hilly rural place can be an adventure. Lois had tried to explain what it was like to her city-living brother but he would have none of it. For him, jumping into his car or onto a bus or subway could never be compared to the old-fashioned, wobbly and time-consuming ride on a bicycle. The weather, the hills, the cars, the delays!

Of course Lois had a response to all of these. The fresh air, the exercise, the more leisurely pace. And if you choose your route wisely you could avoid most vehicles – at least when you live where she did. Then brother Nick would sigh, roll his eyes (she could hear this even over the phone) and complain about her never-ending sales pitch for life in the country.

So what if you had to walk up the odd hill pushing your bike? Isn't that what arms and legs are for? He'd groan and start talking about his job or the kids or politics. Anything else. Lois knew he thought she was a bit of an anachronism but she didn't care. She was happy.

But she wasn't one of those serious "cyclists" you could spot on highways, back roads or city streets. Decked out in colourful, form-fitting attire, backs hunched and determination in their eyes, they intimidated the daylight out of Lois. No, her style was more an easy amble along the abandoned rail line or a spin around the lake. She even found her own shortcuts to reach these places that kept her off the streets entirely.

Faster than walking, biking none-the-less still afforded her opportunities to take in her surroundings. Deer lifted their beautiful faces to watch her go by, birds chirped encouragement and the sun warmed her face. Today the air

smelled of old wet leaves and evergreens with just a hint of cold from the westerly breeze. Lois knew this might be the last ride.

It had been several decades since she had last been on a bike. True, you never forgot how to ride but you definitely got out of practice. She discovered this when she first returned to the saddle. The handlebars shook unsteadily and she could feel her stomach churn a little with nervousness. Could she really do this or would she end up with scrapes and maybe even a concussion if she took a tumble?

Confidence is one thing but reckless abandonment was something else. A neighbour filling her bird feeder watched Lois, a skeptical look on her face. Herman the dog walking his owner barked as she peddled by. Lois didn't dare raise her hand in greeting. No need to court disaster.

If Lois lived in a city she doubted she would ride a bike to get around. Places like the Netherlands or Denmark were different but North America had a lot of catching up to do when it came to safe riding.

She coasted down the first hill praying no vehicle might suddenly emerge from a side street. Pushing that fear from her mind while keeping her eyes sharp, she luxuriated in the sense of freedom as she glided over the pavement. Then a meander beside the river and into the park. Another cyclist approached on the path and the two of them nodded in greeting. It was a great day to be doing this, Lois thought, soaking up the experience.

But her legs were protesting. Unused to being used in this way, the thighs were feeling the exertion especially hard. The bike was new, bought only recently and Lois realized it would probably take next summer before she was really in shape. Still it was faster than walking and with her backpack she could drop by the library or stores and still have her hands free.

"Good for you" remarked a walker as Lois peddled by. She smiled.

Down



sharon lynch

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points of view

Cordially speaking

LATELY, I'VE COME to realize that while Jenn and I might not be what most people think of as affluent, we are rich in the things that really count – that being phone chargers.

I'm not sure whether it is through luck or good management, but over the years, we have accumulated enough chargers and cords for our phones that we no longer have to ask each other uncomfortable questions like, "Do you know where I left my phone charging cord?" or worse, "Can I borrow your phone charger?"

Instead, we just have to look to our electrical outlets and the odds are good one will be there.

For those of you who are jealous of this good fortune, let me just say we did not inherit our phone chargers, like kids do.

We worked hard for them and, over time, accumulated far more than anyone could ever possibly use or need.

You see, I believe there are two kinds of people in this world.

The first kind looks at their phone and realizes that it is at 10 per cent battery life – or what most people refer to as "about to go off grid."

Those naïve folks then walk around their house trying to find the phone cord that came with their phone. This, in my experience, is similar to finding the source of the Nile. Sure, it's possible, but only if you hire guides.

Since there are no guides in the average household, however, they are on their own. This means they wander aimlessly from room to room looking at all the electrical outlets, hoping beyond all hope that there is a phone charger in one of them. An hour later, they realize that they have done a circle and are back where they started with a dead phone.

Worse still, they are no closer to charging their phone so they cannot use it for its intended purpose, which is to do a web search of "Puppies in Halloween costumes."

Jenn and I just happen to be the second type of person.

We are realists. This means that if no cord is in immediate sight, we do not waste our time searching for something we know we will only find after we buy a new one.

As a result, we now have enough phone chargers in our house and cars so that we will never have to buy a phone charger again – unless the kids visit.

This isn't to suggest Jenn and I are one percenters, however – we would never let our battery levels get down that low.

We are just ordinary hard-working folks who have decided that it is better to invest in phone cords than leave money in the bank. Phone charging cords may not be a great investment but at least they do not accrue monthly service charges.

I might not be a financial genius, but I know that much.

Also, we know that if another great depression ever comes our way again, we will be able to spend more time riding the rails and hobo-ing because we will have spent less time looking for our phone chargers.

I know some might consider this decadent. They might say that there are people in this world or even in their own house who could use a phone charger, while we have far too many.

To which I say, guilty as charged.



steve
galea

Loon Tales



pic of the past

This week's Pic of the Past is of two young women outfitted in long woollen winter coats, sporting fleece mittens and collars suitable for a blustery winter day. Bess Dart and Clara Gorrie were fast friends and part of a regular crowd who made their own fun. Their snowshoes, peeking out from under their long coats, attest to their familiarity with outdoor activity and recreation. This photo is from *Haliburton: A History in Pictures*, published by the Haliburton Highlands Museum.

Special service addresses grief during the holidays

The Christmas season for many is a magical time where there is laughter, family traditions and gatherings, special foods. But for some, this season is a difficult time. A loved one will not be sitting at the dinner table this year or has not been there for a few years now.

Grief at this time can cause great sadness for those who have lost a loved one. They struggle to feel happy and they shy away from taking part in the events that make this time of year special.

"My wife use to make the best Christmas pudding I have ever tasted," said a tearful husband.

"Who is going to carve the turkey this year," lamented a mourning wife.

A grieving parent whispered "My daughter use to love this time of year."

Many memories of loved ones who have died bring the colour of grey to the season of green, red and white. "Tinsel and Tears" is a Christian based service put on by the Churches of Haliburton. They want to give those who are grieving gifts of hope and good memories this Christmas. They want to let grieving people know that their loved ones are not forgotten, even though they are no longer with them. They want to let them know that they are not alone in this journey.

Here are some thoughts from previous participants of the services held over the past years.

"Unfortunately in our day and in this world we live in, many prefer not to acknowledge the

pain and loneliness of the bereaved and grieving. The journey we are on cannot be rushed. It can take years to adapt to our new lives. Christmas time is a time that can bring great joy or sadness. Memories flood our minds of Christmases past. I have found that being gathered together in this candlelight service is a wonderful way of honouring our lost loved ones and a caring way to support one another."

"The Light in the Darkness Blue Christmas allowed me the opportunity to focus on my mom in a quiet and meaningful way, remembering who she was and being able to reflect on the person she was and the gift she was to me. Mom was 86 when she passed away and I will always be so grateful for the time we had with her and for all the wonderful memories."

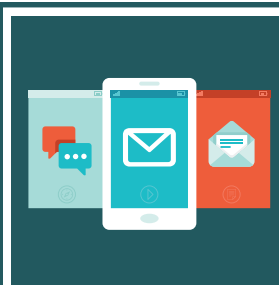
Pastor Garry Swagerman, from the Eagle Lake Community Church, has facilitated several grief groups. He says "Many people feel alone in their grief, but coming to this kind of service will show them that they indeed are not alone."

The Tinsel and Tears service will be held on Dec. 8, at the Haliburton United Church at 2 p.m. Refreshments will be served after the service.

Come join with others who find it hard to see the tinsel through the tears of their grief. Come join with others to share in the hope that is so much a part of this season.

For further information contact Pastor Garry 705-455-7467.

Submitted by Mary Anne Swagerman



Have a thought, comment or opinion
you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to
jenn@haliburtonpress.com

Local resident featured in book about healing power of music

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

The Awesome Music Project: Songs of Hope and Happiness is a book featuring a collection of stories chronicling the transformative power of music from more than 100 people including Danny Michel, Sarah McLachlan, Theo Fleury, Fred Penner, Chris Hadfield and Eagle Lake resident Cam Espina.

The book by Robert Carli and Terry Stuart was released on Oct. 10, World Mental Health Day, with proceeds going toward music and mental health research initiatives – a cause near and dear to Espina's heart.

A few years ago, when Espina was in Grade 11, struggles with his own mental health resulted in him being admitted to the hospital in Peterborough for several weeks. Finding few resources that offered the therapeutic support he was seeking as he worked through depression and anxiety, his mom advocated for him to be able to access a piano in the chapel there, as well as his own guitar.

"In the hospital, I wasn't allowed to bring my guitar for a little bit," he said. "Then I was able to just sit in my room and play. At that time I realized I could channel all of my negative energy into that, into my guitar, and instead of being self-destructive and harming to myself I could put that energy into something else and get music out of it and get art out of it. So I started writing, I started trying to write and learn more things and realized I could convey anxiety and sadness and confusion in my playing. I could write a song about something and store all of that energy in that, and have this piece of art but also feel that weight come off of my chest."

Now, Espina has weaned himself off of medications he has found unhelpful for him in the past – antidepressants, anti-psychotics, ADHD medication and benzodiazepines – and though he notes the benefit of medication for many, said for him, music therapy was life-saving and helped him get through tragedies in his life including a car accident due to side effects of one of his medications, and the unexpected and sudden death of his friend. His hope is that more people can access the benefits of listening to and playing music, and music therapy, as part of their treatment to help heal.

"I have a hard time putting together words and speaking sometimes," reads his entry in *The Awesome Music Project* book. "I feel like I can say a lot more with sound and melody. It's definitely the best way I have to express my emotions, to convey happiness, sadness, confusion. If I'm feeling down or worked up, the only thing that can take my mind off everything is playing. I just feed that energy through the music. It feeds right through and out of your soul. My dream is to pass my energy through my music directly into someone else's soul."

Interested in music since his childhood, Espina said he had let his guitar sit for years before picking it up and putting the effort into learning how to play it.

"One day I was kind of looking at it and realized ... I felt like I didn't do it justice, it felt like it had some things to say, and I was just looking at it for years watching it silently ... I felt bad," he said. "Because you gain an emotional relationship with your instruments. So I just picked it up one day and started learning because ... I wanted the guitar to say the things it had to say. It can't do that unless there's somebody playing it."

Espina plays in two bands, finding solace in the music



Cam Espina holds *The Awesome Music Project*, a book he contributed a story to alongside fellow Canadians Chris Hadfield, Sarah McLachlan, Theo Fleury and Madeleine Thien. All proceeds from the book support music and mental health research initiatives. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

he listens to, as well as the music he creates.

"It's a very slow climb, getting comfortable, and I still have so much to learn," he said of learning to play. "But once you get past that barrier and realize it's going to be frustrating and it's going to take a lot of time, then it's worth it."

For his entry, on page 80 in *The Awesome Music Project*, he spoke to Led Zeppelin's live version of the song *Rain* – not necessarily his favourite song, he said, but one that has helped him through troubled times.

"I had been feeling down for a long time, and that song just broke through the shell I was trapped inside," he said in his entry. "I had been under a rain cloud for so long. The song says a lot of powerful things: about the lasting coldness of the winter inside us, and, in the powerful last verse, about how the seasons of our emotions rise and fall like the wind; how a little rain must fall on all of us."

At the book launch, Espina had the chance to meet the authors who had interviewed him, sign books and see a performance by the Barenaked Ladies.

"I think, I just really believe in the whole project, how much music benefits everything," he said. "It's my main medicine, and I think a lot of people could benefit from that."

He said he is thrilled that music therapy is becoming part of the cycle of treatment.

"Music can help you," he said. "It's not going to solve all your problems, neither are medications, but find your coping methods and I think music is one of the last things on this planet that's really true and real. It comes from the soul. There's something in it for everybody. Regardless of how much it helps, I think it can really benefit everybody in some way."

To learn more about the The Awesome Music Project visit theawesomemusicproject.com.



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Public discussion encourages conversation on addictions

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

A sibling. A mom. Elders. A retired nurse. An educator. Someone who identifies as a survivor of alcoholism. People who were working after hours to attend. Friends who were invited to join. Reporters. A pastor. A doctor. Someone who thought it was a different topic altogether but who stayed anyway. And perhaps most critically, people who are struggling with addictions right now.

These are the concerned community members who showed up to gather around a cloth – a resiliency map or storytelling blanket laid on the floor of the Lakeside Church on Nov. 28 by Yvette Perreault. A community facilitator, she helped lead what was advertised by the Human Services and Justice Coordinating Committee of Haliburton County as being a two-hour public discussion on the impact of addictions/substance use disorder in Haliburton County.

The resiliency map or storytelling blanket, comes out of the HIV sector, and Perreault, a longtime front-line community organizer and counsellor, has been using it in harm reduction circles and opioid overdose circles to help whoever comes to the circle talk about the impact of substance use on community.

Gathering closer together with Perreault's guidance, individuals in the group shared sometimes raw experiences of loss and hope, connecting with a colour or section on the resiliency map/storytelling blanket representing shared values, organization, family and community, motivation and commitment, social and political context, research and policy and



what Perreault described as "fire in our bellies" activism.

"And each of you have got some of that or you wouldn't be having your bums on these chairs tonight," she said. "Some part of you is saying we can do better here."

Andrew Hodson, co-chair of the coordinating committee and case manager, Four County Crisis, Canadian Mental Health Association, acknowledged the bravery of those who came forward to talk about their lived experiences among strangers and also familiar faces from within a small community.

"That's who we did this for," he said. "There's a lot of people hurting."

The Human Services and Justice Coordinating Committee of Haliburton County – which includes members of the local John Howard Society, Association for Community Living, HHHS, Point in Time, Legal Aid Ontario, OPP, YWCA and Kawartha Haliburton Victim Services as well as numerous other agencies and organizations – responds to what is happening within the community as much as

Surrounding a resiliency map or storytelling blanket, a group of residents came for a public discussion on the impact of addictions/substance use disorder in Haliburton County. The discussion was led by Yvette Perreault, a longtime front-line community organizer and counsellor, who has been using the floor cloth in harm reduction circles and opioid overdose circles to help whoever comes to the circle talk about the impact of substance use on community. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

they can, he said after the meeting.

"This has been a very tough year for the county for a number of measures. We're not untouched with opioid issues, just like the rest of the province, so we responded. We just decided to open this up."

A three-hour workshop held that afternoon had invited front-line service workers together.

"We said this morning, if there's four or five people show up we'll be happy, and there was over 20," said Hodson. "So we had a session this morning that was meant toward front-line workers, because we're members of the community too, we're not just workers. We're deeply affected by the things that go on, so we got some support this afternoon and then even more importantly this evening was a chance for people with lived experience, and the people that love and care for them."

Perreault asked those sharing in the circle to offer suggestions of what the county needs and suggestions came easily to people.

ple: information and knowledge, more interaction among community members, accessible counselling, alternative therapies, care for youth, transportation and affordable housing, a community walk-in centre, support, motivation and encouragement, and to meet again.

"It's been a very powerful conversation from where I sit as an outsider," she said as the session wrapped up. "I'm trying to remember the last time I sat in a circle with this diverse of a group coming together to look at this stuff. Few and far between. So there's something interesting happening in this community. What I see in this conversation is, we're not at the problem solving stage, we're at the let's meet each other and let's talk together from experience to experience."

Hodson said the sessions were powerful to him both as a front-line worker and also as a community member.

"The people that were struggling with addictions that were here, I don't think they were judged, I think they just felt some support and were able to speak up if they wanted to, about how they've been impacted," he said. "And that's what we really want. We want people to understand we are listening, doing the best we can."

Perreault suggested the group continue to come together somehow. "That might mean, do we plan this every once in awhile that we keep talking about where people are, surviving overdose circles, we just tell each other truth," she said. "We don't rush to problem solve. We need to keep telling the truth about our experiences to the people who walk in the door. We need to hear their stories as well."

For more information about the HSJCC visit hsjcc.on.ca.

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Facilities decisions coming up for HE council

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

As Highlands East council settled in for a regular meeting of council on Nov. 26 to review and discuss organizational and facilities reports, Mayor Dave Burton read from a prepared statement.

"I would like to bring to everyone's attention that we collectively agreed that together, we would strive to meet the needs of Highlands East, now and in years to come," he read. "The ambitious four-year plan to tighten our belts and bring Highlands East into the future has begun. We stated that we would continue to strive towards financial sustainability and, that in order to meet our current standards and prepare for the future, extra funds would be required."

Burton noted that this year council had both an organizational and facilities review conducted, that the new municipality website would be released in December and that new accounting software would be used in 2020.

"Today as we are reviewing all of this information we need to determine the need, sustainability and can the public afford it," he read. "Do we need all of these assets? Do we want to keep all of the assets and increase taxes to pay for the upkeep and future replacement? Do we keep status quo and allow all of our assets to deteriorate?"

He said he hoped council would be "open minded," reviewing the information "for the future of Highlands East."

Councillors first discussed recommendations of an organization assessment conducted by Savino Human Resources Partners Limited of Peterborough and presented at council Oct. 8, within categories including efficiencies, facilities and organization structure that included reducing the number of fire stations in the municipality, implementing a meeting protocol to support a "one-team" mentality, creating one office located centrally for staff, and changing the organization structure, including having an elected deputy mayor.

Chief administrative officer Shannon Hunter said that the election of a deputy mayor was not a simple change, noting that a few things would have to be considered, including potentially changing the ward system, in order to ensure council had an odd number of councillors. Though councillors were generally in favour of an elected deputy mayor, they were concerned about redrawing any ward lines.

Hunter said it was important the document didn't become one "that sits on the shelf," and that suggestions would likely be brought forward through budget deliberations. The suggested changes and improvements were recommended to be implemented over a two- to three-year period, with a decision on the deputy



Highlands East council met on Nov. 26 for a regular meeting of council, reviewing organization and facilities reports presented earlier this year./SUE TIFFIN Staff

mayor process to be made one year prior to an election. "Next year would be the year we'd want to make that decision," she said.

The facilities report, conducted by WalterFedy and presented to council on Nov. 12, assessed the condition of 34 of the municipality's facilities, including sheds, fire stations, community centres and municipal administration facilities, offering an extensive report for each structure. A total of more than \$2 million in repairs is recommended in 2020.

WalterFedy determined that there were buildings that had reached the end of a functional lifecycle: the Glamorgan equipment shelter and garage, the Cardiff pool facility's change room, and the fire station section of the Highland Grove fire station – the garage and storage warehouse section added later were considered to be in good condition.

"Most of the other deficiencies identified relate to the need to replace building elements as the current elements in use age and become either no longer effective, or are no longer economically efficient to maintain," reads the portfolio summary provided by the consultant. High priority items largely fell under a health and safety category, including replacement of fire and smoke alarm and detection systems, upgrading exit signs, and installing air exchange/fresh air systems in fire stations and maintenance garages.

Hunter said any repairs or replacements listed in the health and safety category were not negotiable.

The Glamorgan equipment shelter "has reached the end of useful life: is at risk of total collapse," reads the WalterFedy report, with a photo included in the report showing a wall extended out from the building.

"The fact that it affects the structural integrity, it kind of takes any decision-making out of our hands," said

Hunter.

The Glamorgan equipment garage, meanwhile, "has significant deficiencies" needing addressing, at a cost of \$291,796 if being required for operational use. Councillors discussed the possibility of combining the buildings for their intended uses if that might be more cost effective and efficient for staff.

Highland Grove Fire Station 2 and workshop was deemed to be in mixed condition – the workshop and storage section addition being acceptable but the fire station considered to be in poor condition with insufficient space for emergency vehicles. WalterFedy recommended repair costs totalling \$567,500 for 2019 and 2020 to the whole building, noting a new stand-alone fire station building with 25 per cent additional capacity would cost between \$1 million and \$1.3 million.

Highland Grove residents have been concerned about a potential closure of their fire hall.

In discussing repairs recommended for Highway 28 firehall, Station 6, totalling \$150,720 in 2019 and 2020, Councillor Cam McKenzie said: "You know, we've got to know where we're going, where the fire halls are going, before we start spending money on something that two years later might not be in the system ... I'm not saying it's not going to be a fire hall but I think that big decision has to be decided before we start spending hundreds of thousands of dollars."

He said one positive thing that had come from the review was that council had some hard numbers, saying they offered value in supporting decisions moving forward. McKenzie also said he would appreciate a "nice to have, need to do and nice to do," list to help prioritize decisions.

WalterFedy recommended that an entire new pool facility – replacing the one built in 1957 – be built in Cardiff at a cost of \$2.5 million, recognizing "this may not be feasible for the municipality to manage." At minimum it was recommended that a new change room and mechanical services room be constructed at a cost of \$600,000. The total repair costs recommended for 2019 and 2020 total \$309,800.

Councillor Ryall noted it was essential to look at the big picture, plan for the order things must be done, and acknowledge that "the pool is the reason we have a change room," that with repairs needed on the pool, there was "no point in having a change room and then the following year the pool closes."

McKenzie said he was not pleased that the deadline for an infrastructure grant that he thought the municipality would have been "a perfect candidate" for had been missed.

Throughout the meeting, councillors asked department heads for further information about the history of buildings, how they were currently being used by staff, and what could be done differently for better efficiency and less environmental impact moving forward should buildings need to be replaced or repaired.

"One of the things that has been crystal clear today, nothing that has been mentioned is minor or secondary," said Deputy Mayor Cec Ryall. "It's all big stuff ... And we [don't have] the ability to handle all of it at once."

Chief administrative officer Shannon Hunter said council would have to determine how to address priority items, and whether or not they wished to "maintain everything we have."

If so, Hunter said, it would be necessary to raise taxes or borrow funding.

Council received both reports as information. The organization report is available at highlandseast.ca, while the facility report is available via council meeting agendas and minutes at haliburton.civicweb.net.

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Town hall meeting won't be the last

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter

Dysart et al residents filled council chambers on the afternoon of Saturday, Nov. 30 for a town hall meeting with Mayor Andrea Roberts and Deputy Mayor Pat Kennedy.

After some opening remarks from Roberts and Kennedy, the bulk of the nearly two-hour meeting was an opportunity for residents to ask questions and share ideas with the municipality's two top politicians. Everything from landfills and recycling to traffic and stop signs to tourism promotion was on their minds.

The municipality's landfill along Industrial Park Road is reaching capacity and is to be converted to a transfer station by the end of 2020. A number of residents' questions pertained to issues of landfill, waste diversion and recycling.

With markets for recyclables collapsing and with American states that have traditionally taken waste from Ontario municipalities entertaining the discontinuation of that practice within a number of years, Kennedy said challenges around waste disposal were far-reaching.

"We're staring at 2028 right down the barrel, here," Kennedy said. "2028, if New York State and Michigan decide not to take any more of Ontario's refuse, we're done, the landfills are full in Ontario. If they continue to take the 30 per cent they're taking now, we're still done at 2032. So, this is not a Dysart problem, this



Dozens of Dysart et al residents came to council chambers on Saturday, Nov. 30 for a town hall meeting hosted by Mayor Andrea Roberts and Deputy Mayor Pat Kennedy. The meeting was a chance for residents to ask questions and share ideas with the municipality's two top politicians, and Roberts said she intends to hold such meetings twice a year. /CHAD INGRAM Staff

is a 444 municipalities of Ontario problem, and we need direction [from the province]."

Roberts pointed out that to help divert waste from landfill, the Municipality of Dysart et al has been selling composters and digesters, at a rate of cost recovery, from the municipal office.

"If anybody wants to buy a composter or a digester, they can contact the municipality," she said, adding that greater guidance and assistance for municipalities when it comes to issues of waste

diversion would be required from the provincial government.

One resident asked if the municipality was considering the installation of charging stations for electric vehicles.

"There's a huge change coming in the way people are going to be coming to Haliburton, and that's electric vehicles," he said. "... If you were to have something, the vehicles would be directed to Haliburton, because of the navigation systems they have."

Kennedy said it's something he's been looking into.

"There are no grants, currently, right now, for them," he said. "There was previously."

Kennedy noted there is a grant funding application period coming up for infrastructure, with the parameters fairly wide open.

"So, that's something we may look at here," Kennedy said, adding he thought suitable locations for car charging stations would be in the parking lot near the municipal building and in the parking lot at Head Lake Park.

Kennedy said there is a spectrum of charging stations available, and that essentially the longer they take to charge, the less costly they are. "I think the sort of price we got was around \$16,000 for one that does it in a couple of hours, three hours. There's quite a variety," he said.

"We did price them, actually, last year, just roughly," Roberts said, adding the models that take a whole night to charge a vehicle were fairly inexpensive, the type of model Kennedy was talking about was still quite costly for Dysart et al with no grant assistance, and that quick-charge units are expensive, at about \$40,000 apiece. "So, it is definitely on both our radars," Roberts said.

At the conclusion of the meeting, residents showed their appreciation with applause, Roberts said she was pleased about how it had gone, and the plan was to hold such town hall meetings twice a year, likely once in the spring and once in the winter. Saturday's meeting was the first time Roberts and Kennedy had hosted such an event. Town hall meetings in Haliburton County have traditionally been rare occurrences. Dysart et al Ward 4 Councillor John Smith also held a town hall meeting earlier this year in West Guilford.



HCSA gets new groomer

The Haliburton County Snowmobile Association has a new trail groomer, one of only 11 new rigs coming to Ontario's snowmobile trails this winter. The HCSA Trails Committee made a strong case for a replacement to the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs. One of the HCSA's existing groomers was retired due to high hours and repair costs. The new machine is a Case, 135 horsepower with four track drive. The entire project was funded through the sale of trail permits. /Submitted



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Arts Council reflects on year, eyes future

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

The prevailing theme of the Arts Council ~ Haliburton Highlands at this year's annual general meeting was all about taking steps forward and inspiring others. They discussed the continued success of events such as the perennially sold-out fashion Fallies, the evolution of SPARC (Supporting Performing Arts in Rural and Remote Communities) as it expands across Ontario, promoting the arts to new people through programs such as writers in residence and Artist in the School and Community, and the introduction of new youth membership.

Prompted by Greg Sadlier, who asked about youth

opportunities, board chairperson Kate Butler introduced the new youth membership, which will enable high school students and those enrolled at the Haliburton School of Art + Design to join the Arts Council for \$15.

Butler said this will give new members an opportunity "to dip their toe in the water a little bit."

"It will be a slightly modified membership, but we feel it will be a really good way to connect with young artists in the community, who are just establishing themselves and it will also open up further opportunities for mentoring, which is the word of the night," she said.

Sadlier suggested the Arts Council facilitate a regular meeting for young artists, who can gather to share ideas, socialize, inspire and be inspired, and possibly provide input to the Arts Council.

Butler and other members were open to the concept.

She said this and other ideas discussed will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

Scott Walling's nomination to sit on the council's board was confirmed. Laurie O'Reilly, Laurie Jones and Dan Manley have stepped down. Walling said he is joining the board because he wanted to give back to the community and hopes to be part of an effort to ensure youth stay. The Arts Council welcomes members interested in joining the board to fill the vacancies.

Past chairperson and current board member Chris Lynd spoke about the past art show at Sir Sam's Ski and Ride during the Thanksgiving weekend.

Invited by Sir Sam's, the Arts Council recognized the weekend was during the Haliburton Highlands Studio Tour, but didn't want to pass up the opportunity for exposure to some 1,000 people.

The show was an opportunity to educate the public about the Arts Council, to promote the studio tour artists and studios, and the approximate 24 participating artists, who showcased close to 58 pieces.

Sir Sam's has already reached out for another show this winter, Lynd said.

She added a January date is being deliberated and may include two shows of six weeks each.

"It's a great location. It's a lot of people. Again, not everybody there was looking to buy art, but everybody there was [saying], 'Wow.' We impressed a few people that didn't know the quality and calibre of art that is happening in the community so, hopefully, in the end, you know, it's all about somebody seeing something," she said.

SPARC is now entering its fourth year.

"We continue to get encouragement for this project [that] says, 'keep going, keep going. There is a need for what you do,'" Lynd said.

Hiring Jason Manitowabi as the northern outreach coordinator, SPARC has established a connection to communities in northern Ontario for the first time. The key aspect to this wasn't only reaching people and communities, but also maintaining relationships, Lynd clarified.

Barrie Martin said, "One thing it's done for Haliburton, it's really raised our reputation as a true arts community. We're seen as a standard – this happens in other sectors as well, but certainly from a performing arts point of view."

Some of the \$99,000 Canadian Heritage grant, which is being used this year, will help fund the upcoming SPARC Symposium at The Gathering Place by the Grand from May 7 to 10 this spring at Six Nations of the Grand River, in southwestern Ontario.

"This is very big for us to have Canadian Heritage fund us in this way," Lynd said.

“

We impressed a few people that didn't know the quality and calibre of art that is happening in the community.

— Chris Lynd

The theme for the first-time symposium is reconciliation and connection.

Programming by SPARC will also benefit from the grant.

Arts Council secretary Renee Woltz said as SPARC continues to progress in its efforts as a mentor organization, there was a consideration to alter the mandate and mission to reflect this.

There was a preliminary discussion at the meeting, which lasted at least several minutes. Members examined the wording and brainstormed about relevant changes to mirror the evolutionary scope of what served the local area and has grown to include communities across Ontario and, hopefully, will include communities across Canada. Butler said more will be talked about at the Arts Council's next meeting.

The chairperson added SPARC is "a testament to the group in Haliburton that started it, but also to all people around Ontario who are excited about this and want to be part of it. And, as we've always said, success for SPARC will be seeing it as a province-wide organization, not purely Haliburton-based, although of course Haliburton is always going to be its birth place," she said.

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Red Hawks growing from a loss

Hockey team loses to St. Mary Thunder 5-1, but gains so much more

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

After a 5-1 road loss to the St. Mary Catholic Secondary School, the Red Hawks hockey team head coach Jason Morissette called it an opportunity to improve while his team was volunteering for the Heat Bank, splitting, sorting and stacking wood for the Heat Bank Haliburton County at Abbey Gardens on Friday, Nov. 29.

Morissette said the Hawks with veteran Carson Sisson in net didn't necessarily lose to the perennial Kawartha powerhouse hockey team, the Thunder, as they were beat by a deeper team with greater skill on Wednesday, Nov. 27 in Cobourg.

"What we learned the most playing a team that is that quick and ... really moves the puck fast [is that they] really take advantage of you when you make mistakes. These guys really learned, like for instance, two of the goals were on odd man rushes. So what happened is our guys got away from playing that 1-2-2 system. They got caught in deep and then St. Mary just pounces. They're so fast, you can't get back. Carson had some two-on-ones on him and things like that, right? Every one of the goals St. Mary got was basically on a one timer. Like it wasn't a set shot. Not much chance," he said. "Carson played really well. Any shot that he could get set for he was making those saves."

The Thunder easily out shot the Hawks. Morissette thought it was a margin of two-to-one for the Thunder.

He was impressed by the Hawks' three



Red Hawks player Tyson Clements looks to evade I.E. Weldon Wildcats defenders during Kawartha High School Hockey League action on Monday, Nov. 25 at the A.J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton. The Hawks lost 4-3. Two days later, the Hawks fell to the Thunder 5-1 while playing in Cobourg. / DARREN LUM Staff

defenceman Ty Mills, Isaac Little and Dylan Keefer. However, they learned they can't rush the puck and need to pace themselves, Morissette said. On Monday, Nov. 25, Keefer left the home game against the I.E. Weldon Wildcats in the second period after getting hit from behind against the boards. His departure was for precautionary reasons and he was cleared to play against the Thunder.

Although the Thunder did score a powerplay goal, it was the only opportunity they had with the man advantage. Morissette appreciated how his team improved their discipline with just the one penalty for the game.

"They knew. They are listening. They are listening to some of my advice about certain teams, about what you can get away with and what you can't get away [with]. Like I said, it's going to be a learning year for them," he said.

The Thunder ran four full lines, easily

outnumbering the Hawks, who had three lines (two centremen), and three defencemen. The disparity was owed to five players who are out of the lineup for injury and illness. Morissette said this wasn't an excuse.

"Yes, we were missing five players that would help for our energy and for learning – to get the guys in the lineup to learn, but St. Mary, to be very honest, is very talented, well-coached," he said.

Recognizing many of the Thunder players from last year, the opponents have a veteran team and are likely to be a team to beat.

"They're good and they have that OFSAA experience," he said.

Last year, the Thunder beat the Hawks in the COSSA final to earn a trip to the all-provincials.

Morissette said his team is learning to play against a team that is "a little quicker, a little older, you know, physi-

cally even stronger so I was impressed by them. Our guys, we held them to 1-0 after the first."

Down 3-0 to start the third, he said, the Hawks responded with a goal from Lucas Haedicke (assisted by Paul Turner). He said the team wasn't able to capitalize on the momentum unfortunately because there wasn't much energy left from the shortened bench. The Thunder added another two to seal the deal.

St. Mary player Logan Kelly led all scorers with three points (two goals and an assist).

The next three games are important, he said, as it will be an opportunity to win and earn some points, crucial for a playoff berth. The top seven teams will move on. However there will be a AA and a AAA playoff.

The Hawks' next home game is against the Lions of Adam Scott on Wednesday, Dec. 18 at the A.J. LaRue Arena. Puck drops 4 p.m.


Morissette said he's had teams in the past who have lost in the regular season, but went on to experience playoff success. Winning is part of a development process, which includes losing.

"You do have to lose to learn too," he said. "You can't just win, win, win. You learn a lot from losing."

Losing helps build resiliency, he added.

The road trip was more than the game with a goal to win. It was about the social aspect of team getting to know one another during the drive down and sharing a meal together, making memories, Morissette said.

"The truth is they had a fun day," he said.



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Bringing the heat

The Red Hawks boys' hockey team (with coach Jason Morissette, far left and trainer Brett Caputo, in plaid) spent the day volunteering their time, splitting, moving and sorting wood for Heat Bank Haliburton County on Friday, Nov. 29 at Abbey Gardens. This was the second year the team spent their off day helping the Heat Bank, which follows their fundraising efforts for the organization at their home opener on Tuesday, Nov. 19 at the A.J. LaRue Arena. The Heat Bank provides home heating to those in vulnerable situations. See heatbankhc.ca for more information. /DARREN LUM Staff

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- CLUES ACROSS

1. Egyptian bull-god
5. America
8. Type of field (abbr.)
11. Reagan's Deputy AG
13. Negative
14. Mother of Hermes
15. Summer and Winter Olympics gold medal winner
16. In shape
17. Oh my goodness!
18. People of Guinea or Sierra Leone
20. A form of "to be"
21. Succulent plant
22. Estranges
25. Honest
30. Showing conviction
31. High schoolers' test
32. Implant
33. Acknowledgment
38. Cash dispenser
41. Transferred to another
43. Superhero group
45. Photographers
48. Small, rich sponge cake
49. Power to perceive
50. Heavy cavalry sword
55. Israel's first permanent UN delegate
56. Everything
57. Afflicted
59. Language spoken in Chad
60. Pioneering MC Kool Moe _
61. Jewish spiritual leader
62. Keyboard key
63. Soviet Socialist Republic
64. Impudence

CLUES DOWN

1. Type of degree
2. Expression of sorrow or pity
3. Large, predatory lizard
4. River in Romania
5. Biased
6. Parties
7. TV's used to need one
8. Philly football player
9. Recognized ethnic group of China
10. Gradually disappear
12. Large, dark antelope
14. Vegetarians won't eat it
19. Takes the energy out of
23. Body part
24. Succeed in achieving
25. Where golfers begin
26. Computer memory
27. One who buys and sells securities
28. Midway between north and northeast
29. Quiet and rather dull
34. A limb on which to walk
35. It precedes two
36. Of she
37. Commercials
39. Necessary for sewing
40. Infectious viral disease
41. Expression of good wishes
42. Some are contact
44. More plentiful
45. Secret political clique
46. Behind the stern of a ship
47. Supernatural force
48. Altar in Orthodox churches
51. Swiss river
52. Impartiality
53. "Luther" actor Idris
54. They resist authority (slang)
58. Criticize

Answers on page 16



The Red Hawks boys' hockey team spent the day volunteering their time, splitting, moving and sorting wood for Heat Bank Haliburton County on Friday, Nov. 29 at Abbey Gardens.

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Inspiring women

Sharon Campbell-Rayment, an acclaimed author and speaker, addresses the crowd of 110 people at the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce Inspiring Women's Luncheon on Thursday, Nov. 28 at the Legion in Haliburton. As one of a few dozen people in the world with foreign accent syndrome, Campbell-Rayment offered methods of attaining greater focus and reducing stress using the power of meditation and being engaged in the present. Locally owned company Elegant Events sponsored and helped to organize and decorate for the event while catering was done by event sponsor McKecks Tap and Grill and Pine Reflections as another sponsor. /DARREN LUM Staff

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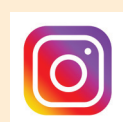
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Christmas in The Highlands
When: Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2 p.m.
Where: Highland Hills United Church, Minden.
Come and celebrate the joy of the Christmas season. Donations to the Minden Food Bank most appreciated. All are welcome!

Kinmount Christmas Tree Lighting
When: Thursday, Dec. 5, 6:30 p.m.
Where: Kinmount Railway Station
Carol singing, pictures with Santa, refreshments

Haliburton Highlands Land Trust Open House and Enviro-Hero Awards
When: Thursday, Dec. 5, from 1 to 4 p.m.
Where: HHLT Office, 739 Mountain St. Haliburton
Join us in thanking our volunteers, say hello to friends and enjoy a treat. Enviro-Hero Awards will take place at 2 p.m. All welcome!

St. Paul's Anglican Church Children's Christmas Gift Sale
When: Friday Dec. 6, 4 to 7 p.m.,
Saturday, Dec. 7, 10 to 2 p.m.
Where: St. Paul's Anglican Church, 19 Invergordon Ave, Minden
Nothing cost more than \$1.00
Children come and shop for Christmas Gifts for family & friends. We will help the children shop, wrap and tag the gifts, they will be ready to take home and put under the tree.

Christmas Luncheon
When: Friday, Dec. 6, 11:30 to 1:30 p.m.
Where: Our Lady of Fatima Church, 7 Bobcaygeon Road, Minden
Bucket draw, Santa squares, bake sale.
Admission by donation (Snow Date Dec. 7)

Kinmount Christmas in the Village
When: Saturday, Dec. 7
Where: Kinmount
Pancake breakfast at St. James Church from 8:30 to 11 a.m. Christmas market, wagon rides, Kinney the Elf hunt, Legion Christmas party at 2 p.m. Christmas Music Night at Galway Hall at 7 p.m. with Frank and Chanda Leahy and Family with loonie auction and desserts. For tickets to the music night, call 705-488-2635

Gord Kidd & Friend, Don Stiver & Ian Pay
When: Saturday, Dec. 7, 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Where: Kinmount Legion
For more information: <https://www.gordkidd.com/>

Join Gord Kidd & Friend, Don Stiver & Ian Pay for a Country Christmas Show
Date: Saturday, Dec. 7, 2 to 5 p.m.
Where: Minden Legion
Light lunch available 12 to 2 p.m. meat draw 1 p.m.
No cover charge. Support your local Legion.

Santa's Workshop, Craft Sale & Luncheon
When: Saturday, Dec. 7, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Where: Lloyd Watson Community Centre in Wilberforce.
Shop unique items from area vendors.
Members of St. Margaret's Anglican Church will have lunch available



Winner to wheel away wine
Jane Jaycock and Kim Emmerson draw the name of the wheelbarrow of wine winner during the Haliburton Hospital Auxiliary's Christmas open house at the Haliburton HHHS site on Dec. 1. This year's winner was Gail Connelly, who won 37 bottles of wine donated by auxiliary members, and the wheelbarrow, donated by Emmerson. /CHAD INGRAM Staff

Some festive harp music set the scene for the Haliburton Hospital Auxiliary's annual Christmas open house in the lobby of the Haliburton HHHS site on Dec. 1. The event included shopping in the auxiliary's gift shop, a bake sale, bidding on festive wreaths, and the auxiliary's popular draw for a wheelbarrow of wine.

Talent show raised spirits and funds

community news
west guilford
Eleanor Cooper
754-2278

Abbey Gardens has done it again. Thanks to John Patterson's foresight a new facility which will house water-grown lettuces and other fresh greens will be available for summer and future salad making. Great to have yet another reason for going to see what's growing in the enterprising area.

This is the Growcer, which uses only water in the process. In yet another area of keen interest, the Pattersons have recently opened their home to opera singer, Catherine Daniel who many of us had heard at the opera summer class a few years ago. As luck would have it, Nov. 10 was also the date of the water-fund presentation at the Community Centre.

So many people helped to make this Water Ambassadors event a success. Gordon Forbes's information of the work in Colombia sparked the interest. Barry Hart's interview by Cathy Mac at Canoe added to the interest. The signage placed in front of the Centre by the Birches caught people's attention, and of course the presentation itself brought out the people who know the performers. Many thanks to David Barker who was master of ceremonies for the event which my son Andy (and his son Logan) called "Mom's Show!" David's wife, Shirley, sung "Just Wave Hello." Cheryl Cohoon sang. Bill Gliddon brought the keyboard alive with songs from *Showboat* and Wayne Cooper brought Broadway melodies following his accompaniment of Cheryl's singing.

Julie Barban's ballet dancers, taking time from rehearsal of the *Nutcracker* delighted us all with excerpts from that show as Snow Queen, as Arabian dancers and as Raggedy Ann & Raggedy Andy. Carl Dixon was a hit as he sang and played several favourites the audience obviously enjoyed. Cathy Mac and friend, Nomi, saw to the donations at the door. So many people to thank. At a guess, about 70 in attendance and \$1,243 was donated until a later cheque was added of \$1,000 from a Vaillancourt Foundation making the total well worth the effort. So much appreciation and goodwill ensued and I am indeed grateful.

Another recent loss to the community is to be reported in the passing of Bev Hunt. Bev and his wife Cathy were piped in at Maple Lake United Church 18 years ago by Earl, a memory cherished. The community expresses sadness and kind thoughts to Cathy.

Congratulations to Greg Gillespie on his showing of the beautiful carving of Shadow Hunter. Greg, Barrie Martin and our son George were Frost Centre buddies so we're always interested in ongoing achievements.

A somewhat belated but sincere welcome to Sharon Campbell-Rayment who now resides in the home formerly owned by Alice Jones. Alice is now recovering from hip surgery. We wish her good health in recovery. Sharon was the speaker at the Legion on Nov. 28, noon - 2 p.m.

Nov. 23 saw an extremely successful craft and bake sale at the Community Centre. The place was alive with continuous customers from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the purchase of many kinds of crafted articles. Approximately 15 vendors showed off their beautiful handiwork. Thanks to all who participated. Even the weather co-operated.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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390 COMING EVENTS

390 COMING EVENTS



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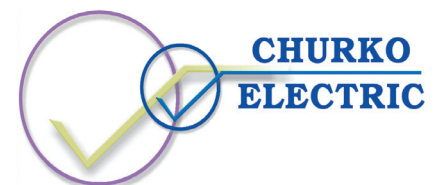
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Interested individuals are invited to email a detailed resume and cover letter in confidence to:

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ccoulson@dysartetal.ca

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NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF LANDS

UNDER AND BY VIRTUE OF a Writ of Execution filed with the Sheriff of the County of Haliburton, dated the 16th of October 2018, under writ file number 18-0000396, the real and personal property of SEAN BAILLIE, Debtor, at the request of EVENSON BUNDGARD LLP, Creditor, I have seized and taken in execution all the right, title, interest and equity of redemption of SEAN BAILLIE, Debtor, in and to: PT LT 11 CON 4 GUILFORD PT1 19R4394; S/GU626; UNITED TOWNSHIPS OF DYSART, DUDLEY, HARCOURT, GUILFORD, HARBURN, BRUTON, HAVELOCK, EYRE AND CLYDE municipally known as: Eagle Lake Road, Haliburton, Ontario All of which said right, title, interest and equity of redemption of SEAN BAILLIE, Debtor, in the said lands and tenements described above, I shall offer for sale by Public Auction subject to the conditions set out below at the Superior Court of Justice, 440 Kent Street West, Lindsay, Ontario K9V 6K2, Phone Number (705) 324-1400

on Friday, December 20th, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.

THE SALE OF THE AFOREMENTIONED PROPERTY IS SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

The purchaser to assume responsibility for all mortgages, charges, liens, outstanding taxes and other encumbrances. No representation is made regarding the title of the land or any other matter relating to the interest to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchaser(s).

TERMS: A deposit of 10% of bid price or \$1,000.00 whichever is greater.

- Payable at time of sale by successful bidder;
- To be applied to purchase price; and
- Non-refundable - Failure of the successful bidder to comply with terms and conditions may result in a forfeit of any deposits paid at the time of the sale or any time thereafter.

Ten business days from date of sale to arrange financing and pay balance in full at Superior Court of Justice, 440 Kent Street West, Lindsay, Ontario K9V 6K2.

All payments in cash or by bank draft, certified cheque or money order made payable to the Minister of Finance.

A Deed Poll will be provided by Sheriff only upon satisfactory payment in full of purchase price.

Other conditions as announced.

THIS SALE IS SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION BY THE SHERIFF WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE UP TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE SALE TERMS BY A SUCCESSFUL BIDDER.

Note: No employee of the Ministry of the Attorney General may purchase any goods or chattels, lands or tenements exposed for sale by a Sheriff under legal process, either directly or indirectly.

October 18, 2019

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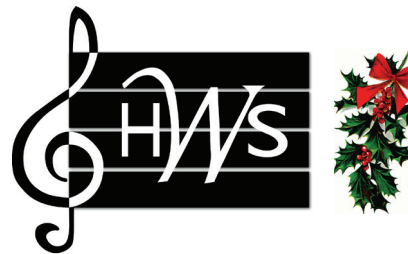
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With Thanks

The family of the late Lyle Leroy Stamp would like to thank all who helped make it possible to bring Lyle home to Guilford. Especially our large loving Stamp Family for their help in the preparation of the West Guilford Community Centre for the visitation and Celebration of Life, it was beyond expectation. You all left no stone unturned. We also are so grateful for the help they all provided to make sure we had everything we needed at home as well.

A huge thank you to the Haliburton Ambulance Service, the Haliburton Fire Dept. (especially Fmr. Fire Chief Myles Maughan) for the many times they answered our call for help, day or night and the Haliburton Hospital Staff including the Cleaning, Kitchen, Office, X-ray and Medical Staff who always were respectful and provided excellent care. Lyle always said how lucky we are to live in Haliburton and have people who care.

Lyle also appreciated the help he received from the home care nursing staff and especially his Primary Nurse, Liz Foote. Home was Lyle's favorite place to be, and the Paramed Staff made this possible. To Liz our thanks for your positive attitude and helpful remedies to make life more comfortable for Lyle and the many hugs and kisses for all of us.

Lyle had set some goals that he wanted to accomplish before his death. He wanted to visit the Stompin' Tom Centre in PEI, attend the Owen Sound Fishing Derby and the Kinmount Fair. With the help of close friends, Emile and Jane, we travelled to PEI and visited the Stompin' Tom Centre, he went to the Owen Sound Derby and visited with old friends and ended his summer at the Kinmount Fair where he kept his record intact of never missing a Fair since the age of seven. A huge thank you to all who helped make his last days, happy days.

To all who brought food to our home, sent flowers and cards, made donations to the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 129 and made many visits to our home and the hospital to make sure he was never alone, we thank you for your kindness, generosity and love.

Lyle always lived his life in the manner he chose, but as all his many friends, family and customers knew he was generous with his love and this is what we will miss the most. We want everyone to keep sharing Lyle's little stories and sayings and keep his love in your heart.

Thank you and love to all from, Carol Susan, Mark, Brandon, Mia, Josie, Emma, Ella, Sawyer, Phoebe and Beckett.

Giving Thanks

**Thank you for your support of the
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640 IN MEMORIAM

650 OBITUARIES


George Hammerschmidt
(Resident of Eagle Lake, Ontario)


It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our wonderful dad, grandpa and friend. George was a retired high school teacher from Windsor. He often said the best move our family made was to Haliburton! He loved the beautiful vistas and friendly, caring people throughout our community. A special thanks to the gang at Eagle Lake Country Market, the West Guilford garage, and Bessie's great

Haliburton library for taking extra care with him whenever he was near. George is survived by his kids Katie (Dave), George (Alison), Steve, his grandsons Ethan & Andrew, Kyle & Wes, his sister Anne, his former wife Anne, nieces Valerie & Laurie and his best buddy Max. Predeceased by his sister Elizabeth.

Private Family Service & Reception

A private family service is planned. Any expressions of sympathy can be made in his name to the Haliburton County Library, HHHS ER, or Sunnybrook ICU. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

www.communityfuneralhomes.com

650 OBITUARIES


William "Bill" Davis

(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)



Peacefully at Hyland Crest Nursing Home in Minden on Saturday morning, November 30, 2019 in his 78th year. Beloved husband and best friend of Freda Davis (nee Dugan). Loving father of Ed (Linda), Sherry (Bill Mulholland) and Charlene. Fondly remembered by his grandchildren Heather (Cameron), Craig (Cori), Edward, Jonathan, Carly and by his great grandchildren Hunter & Lillian. Predeceased by his brother Bryan Noble. Also lovingly remembered by his nieces Sandra and Sherry. Bill was a Paramedic for Dysart et al and a Dispatcher for the Ministry of Health. He served the Community as Deputy Reeve and Reeve of Dysart et al. He served on many Committees locally and Provincially for many years and as a Warden of the County of Haliburton. He enjoyed fishing, golfing, hockey, hunting and most of all his grandchildren and his family.

Visitation, Celebration Of Life & Reception

Friends are invited to call at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Tuesday December 10, 2019 from 2 – 6 p.m. A Celebration of Bill's life will take place on Wednesday morning, December 11, 2019 at 11 o'clock. Reception to follow in The Community Room. As expressions of sympathy, donations to Autism Ontario or 4 C's Food Bank would be appreciated by the family.

www.communityfuneralhomes.com

In Loving Memory of

Irene Elizabeth Moxam (nee Simpkin)

Passed away peacefully at Hyland Crest Senior Citizens Home, Minden on Friday, November 29th, 2019, at the age of 83.



Beloved wife of the late Uriel "Spike" (2002). Dear mother of Wayne (Lynne) of Sioux Lookout, Shelley (Brian) of Minden, Karen (Allan) of Stouffville, Brent (Teresa) of Cobourg and predeceased by Paul. Loving grandmother of Matthew (Laurie), Sarah, Jason Katie (Trish), Asha (Alex), Jordan (Christine), Allana (Andrew), Amber, Claire, Lauren and 9 great grandchildren. Predeceased by her parents Reginald and Olive Simpkin. Dear sister to Joan, Carol, Linda, predeceased by Don and Gail. Dear sister-in-law of Enny (Garfield)(deceased), and predeceased John, Betty-Joan and Norm. Fondly remembered by her many nephews, nieces, family and friends.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle St., Minden on Thursday, December 5, 2019 from 11:00 am until the time of the Memorial Service to Celebrate Irene's Life at 1:00 pm. Reception to follow at the church (downstairs). Cremation has taken place.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

INSIDE THIS WEEK:

THE VIEW FROM INDIA
Megan Paul describes the local reaction to the terrorist attack in Mumbai

A WINNING STREAK
Matt Duchene and Cody Hodgson hope they caught the eyes of Team Canada coaches

WOMEN CURLERS ROCK
Haliburton club honours two founding members; draw is a big winner too

THE ECHO

HALIBURTON COUNTY

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2008

Vol. 125 No. 49 \$1.25 INCL. GST

County gets million dollars for high speed

MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

Haliburton County is getting up to speed with the rest of the province thanks to a \$1 million grant.

The county was one of the few places in Ontario to receive the maximum possible amount of money under the Rural Connections Broadband Program. Fifteen municipalities or counties were awarded a total of \$8.8 million in Friday's announcement.

The \$1 million from the province will be matched with \$560,000 from the county and \$2.24 million from Bell Aliant. The \$3.8 million investment in the county's broadband infrastructure will be spread out over two years and speed up an existing plan to connect rural residents to broadband technologies. Some of the county's investment will be in-kind contributions.

"I'm just so excited," says county treasurer Laura Janke, who worked on the county's application. "One of the things they look at is how many gaps [in service] will get closed and Haliburton County has so many gaps."

See **High speed** page 20



MARTHA PERKINS/ECHO

Enough already!

Seventy-eight-year-old Beno Luna thinks winter arrives too early and leaves too late. Nearly every morning he's out in front of his house on Luna's Hill on the Harburn Road, shovelling away the new snowfall. Sir Sam's Ski Area is happy about the weather, however. It opens for the season on Saturday.

Board begins school review process Dec. 3

The Trillium Lakelands District School Board has filled two community representative positions on the Cardiff and Wilberforce Elementary School Program and Accommodation Review.

Dorian Young, who administers and trustees know from his work on the district school council and former parent conferences, will represent the business community, and Councillor Suzanne Partridge will represent the council of Highlands East.

The first public input session for the PARC will be held Wednesday, December 3, at Cardiff Elementary School.

See **FUME** page 20

Uranium foes wait for province to change its act

MATT JAMES
Staff Reporter

The anti-uranium mining group FUME and its founders Christine Atrill and Robin Simpson are taking a much-needed break from their battle to reform Ontario's Mining Act but that doesn't mean they want others to stop adding their voices to the cause.

The province's public meetings are over but input will be accepted until January 9.

"What we're hoping is to get a whole pile of people to write [the government] and get more impact," said Simpson, "to give us a couple more months of push here."

Simpson is encouraging anyone opposed to uranium mining in Haliburton County to write a letter to the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines. Along with the letter writers' thoughts and opinions, Simpson suggests writers cut and paste in FUME's Three Modest Proposals. They can be found on the FUME website, www.fighturanium.com, under the "campaign" heading.

It's been a hectic fall for Simpson. The madness began in August when mining minister Michael Gravelle announced meetings to review and modernize Ontario's Mining Act.

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BEAUTIFUL PRIVATE LOT



HALIBURTON LAKE \$639,000

3 BR, 2 Bath year-round home/cottage. Private 176ft of frontage. Sandy beach. Open concept living. Pine cathedral ceilings. Fully finished lower level. Single garage, 2 storage sheds.

FINISHED TO PERFECTION



TWELVE MILE LAKE \$569,969

A million dollar view! Nice and bright custom built 3 BR, 3 bath home across the road from Twelve Mile Lake. Waterfront enjoyment without waterfront taxes.

SEASONAL COTTAGE



LONG LAKE \$499,900

2 BR, 1Bath. Seasonal cottage. 54 acres. 650ft of frontage. Ample privacy. Hard packed sand shoreline. Excellent swimming.

YEAR ROUND ACCESS



LONG LAKE \$289,000

2BR, 1 Bath. Eat-in kitchen, Walk-out lower level. Detached single garage. Fenced in area with decking and garden shed. Municipal access over road allowance.

VACANT LOTS

Kennis Lake	\$895,000	4.3AC
Drag Lake	\$499,000	7.24AC
Colborne Lake	\$289,000	4.83AC
Harburn Road	\$108,000	44.17AC
Irondale River	\$79,000	3.22AC
Contau Lake Road	\$49,000	3.91AC
Old Donald Road	\$44,900	3.49AC
Wenona Lake	\$40,000	0.42AC
Fred Jones Road	\$25,000	0.38AC





Spruce Lake

5 BR, 4 Bath. 225ft of frontage. Southern exposure. Gorgeous landscaping and gazebo. Bunkie. Detached double garage. Backup generator.

\$1,399,000



Grass Lake

Breathtaking 4BR, 4 bath cottage or waterfront home. Sunny level lot with South Eastern views. 5 minutes from Haliburton Village. Personal boat launch. Part of Haliburton's 5 lake chain.

\$1,050,000



Colbourne Lake

25 Acres with 300 ft of frontage. 4 BR, 2 bath log home/cottage. Open concept living. Wrap around covered deck, private boat launch. Heated workshop, garage and bunkie.

\$999,000

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS GIVEAWAY

COURTESY OF

Linda Baumgartner

& The Haliburton Real Estate Team

Follow us on Facebook @HaliburtonRealEstateTeam and Instagram @HaliburtonRealEstate and play along for a chance to win 1 of 12 prizes purchased from some of Haliburton's wonderful local businesses!

DECEMBER 5- DECEMBER 20, 2019 EXCLUDING WEEKENDS!

